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Washington Sentinel.

BY BEVERLEY TUCKER. EDITED BY

WM. M. OVERTON AND CH. MAURICE SMITH.

CITY OF WASHINGTON.

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In addition to the members of Congress heretofore announced, the following have arrived in Washington: Hon. H. B. Wright, Hon. Wm. Witte, Hon. John Robbins, of Pa.; Hon. O. B. Matteson, N. Y.; Hon, J. S. Taylor, Ohio; Hon. L. D. Campbell, Ohio; Hon. N. J. Stratton, N. J.; Hon, J. E. Hester, Pa.; Hon. W. W. Snow, N. Y.; Hon. Wm. Murray, N. Y.; Hon. M. Macdonold, Me.; Hon. Harry Hibbard, N. H.; Hon. A. H. Stephens, Ga.; Hon, J. G. Davis, Ind.: Hon, Z. Kidwell, Va.: Hon. G. Doan, N. Y.; Hon. Ner Middleswarth, Pa.; Hon. J. C. James, R. I.; Hon. G. W. Kittridge, N. H.; Hon. Thomas Ruffin, S. C.; Hon. P. Phillips. Ala.; Hon. Jno. Kerr, N. C.; Hon. B. Craige, N. C.; Hon. H. M. Shaw, N. C.; Hon. Jas. Maurice, N. Y.

RIVERS AND HARBORS.

We called attention, a few days ago, to the subject of State power, through tonnage duties to improve harbors and rivers. We referred our readers to the bill of Senator Douglas, introduced in August, 1852, and urged the consideration of the question generally upon the attention of the approaching Congress, as affording, in its solution, a means by which a great good might be attained with entire consistency with the straightest State rights doctrines. It is no more than justice to the distinguished senator who introduced the proposition, that we should add, it deserves the more attention as coming from a gentleman whose position and the interests of whose constituents make it a noble ground for compromise between these who require such improvements. and yet desire them constitutionally; and those who, while they are not opposed to them, insist upon their being made without violating the rigid rules of State rights construction. Coming from a senator resident in a city, whose prosperity rests upon the commerce of the lakes we hail it as a common ground upon which all republicans can unite, in divorcing the federal government from the corruptions of the internal improvement system, as well as in saving it from the well-grounded charge of unconstitutionally constructing them; and, at the same time, in advancing these great and growing interests, which are so intimately connected with the development and prosperity of the country.

We recur to the subject again to vindicate its consistency with the objects of the framers of the Constitution, and to defend it from the charge brought against it by a cotemporary, of virtually conceding the power of internal improvements to Congress.

The National Intelligencer, after quoting the clause of the Constitution referring to the laying of tonnage and other duties by the States, cites the clause containing this inhibition:

"No money shall be drawn from the treas ury but in consequence of appropriations made by law."

The Intelligencer then proceeds: [the Italics are our own] "By the first of these provisions, all moneys collected must be paid into the treasury of the United States, for which, by the second, they cannot be drawn but by an approprintion made by low "

The error into which the Intelligencer has fallen, as we conceive, arises from not noting the fact, that there is an essential and broad difference between the power existent in the States to lay duties on imports and exports, and their power to lay a duty upon tonnage. The former must be paid into the federal treasurythe latter not. We quote the entire clanse :

"No State shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws; and the nett produce of all duties and imposts, laid by any State on imports and exports, shall be for the use of the treasury of the United States; and all such laws shall be subject to the revision and control of the Congress. No State shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any du y of tonnage, keep troops or ships of war in time of peace," &c.

"Now, it seems clear to us," says the Intelligencer, "that if these works of river and harbor improvement be managed by the States, such management is, under the Constitution, a management under the revision and control of Congress, and by consequence the consent of Congress; therefore, in fact, a management of Congress, and by virtue of the consent and power of Congress. This conclusion is unavoidable; and the article of the Union is to our mind a clear concession of the power of Congress to make the improvements. The States

Now, with great deference, we submit, that never in one short paragraph was condensed such a number of logical non sequiturs as appears in this just quoted.

The Intelligencer assumes that the exercise of power, under the clause above cited, by the States is a power derived from Congress, which, granting to the States, it may exercise through them, as its agents, or withholding from them,

This is a grand error. The phraseology, confirmed by the history of the clause, proves directly the reverse. It does not pretend to grant power to the States-it inhibits it, except subject to restraints. In the absence of the clause, the power in question would probably have remained with the States without restraint-we say probably, with reference to what we shall hereafter indicate. The power, when exerted by the States, is not then a derivative, but a pre-existent power, unlimited except by the terms of the clause in question. But how is it limited? and by what restrain- there was a sufficient power in Congress for

always as to one imposed on imports and exports; for the latter may be imposed without such consent, where "absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws."

The question is this: Does the fact, that the consent of Congress to State duties on tonnage is requisite, make that power, when requisite, a derivative one in them, from Congress-or does it involve the existence of the power for like purposes in Congress? The Intelligencer asumes the affirmative; we the negative.

In the various checks to be found in our system, it frequently occurs, that the consent of one part or branch of it is requisite to the validity of the action of another, when the part whose consent is required has not as much power-in the matter as that other. The one is negative-the other is positive. The one may prevent, what it can never do-the other can always do, unless it be prevented.

Thus Congress can never, by a mere majority rote pass any law without the consent of the President. Surely the necessity of his consent cannot imply that the legislative power of Congress is derived from the President? Nor can it imply the existence of any legislative power in him! He can forbid-what he can never do. Congress can always do, unless forbid by

The same reasoning applies to an analogy drawn from the power of the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties. Its consent does not make his power derivative from it-nor imply the existence of the complete power in it, irrespective of him.

It is therefore obvious, that the requisition by the clause in question, of the consent of Congress to the State duties, does not involve, s a logical necessity, the existence of the power in Congress, which it may use, either by the agency of the States, or of its own motion. So far from it, as we have already intimated, it indicates a pre-existent power, absolute in the States, which, under this clause, is limited, by requiring the consent of Congress; and this or a reason which we shall presently explain.

But so far is the Intelligencer wrong in its nference of the power in Congress, from the equisition, of its consent to State duties, that the conclusion to which it thus comes, is expressly denied by the Constitution itself.

If the capacity of giving or withholding its consent to it from the States, imperatively gives to Congress the power in question, then the power to lay duties on imports and exports exstent in the States under this clause, subject to the consent of Congress, must likewise be possessed by it! And if the States, in exercisng this power, are agents used by Congress 'in the execution of the duty," as the Intelligencer says, then it is clear, Congress being the principal, may, of its own will, exercise it! And yet the Constitution prohibits Congress from laying any "tax or duty on articles exported from any State." Thus, while Congress as no power to lay duties on exports for any ourpose, the States have, even without the consent of Congress, as we have shown-but with the onsent of Congress, to any extent; showing thus, incontestably, that the requisition of the consent of Congress neither makes the power, derivative to the States from it, nor demands an inference of the possession of it by Con-

But there is one other position, which requires a moment's attention. It is that already cited in respect to the nett produce of the duties swelling and sonorous organ—the largest mu- executory, and not executed, was the great they can only be withdrawn by law.

If our readers will recur to the clause already quoted, it will be seen, that this provision apolies only to duties on imports and exports. It does not apply at all to duties on tonnage: which are never required to be paid into the United States treasury, but are collected and disbursed by the States for their own purposes.

Thus, in no sense, can internal improvements. carried on by the proceeds of tonnage duties, laid by the States under this clause, be considered in any other light than as State improvements, made by State money, and conducted under the guidance of State policy. Federal power is neither exerted, nor the federal treasary depleted to initiate or consummate them. The States, under the Constitution, have retained a sufficient power, and have done so expressly for the purposes of river and harbor im provements, as we shall now show.

Two days before the adjournment of the federal convention, the clause of the Constitution stood as it now does, substantially, excepting the provision as to tonnage duties, which was not then in it. The provision as to duties laid by the States on imports and exports, originated from their supposed necessity for inspection purposes, &c.; and the nett produce was payable into the federal treasury as a check upon the temptation to the excessive use of the power by the States, which would have resulted so in uriously to the free commerce between them.

When the clause, as it then stood, came up for consideration, the following proposal was

"Mr. McHenry and Mr. Carroll" (Marylanders) "moved that no State shall be restrained from laying duties of tonnage for the purpose of clearing harbors and erecting light-houses."

"Colonel Mason, in support of this, explained and urged the situation of the Chesapeake, may be used by Congress as agents in the exe- which peculiarly required expenses of this sort." The proposition passed-six States in the affirmative, and four in the negative-one be ing divided-with the qualification requiring the consent of Congress.

This consent was required because, as the regulation of commerce was committed to the general authority, from a long and sad experience of the crippling regulations of trade, springing from jealousies between the States, it was deemed advisable to submit the exercise it may exert by virtue of its own inherent power. of the power thus reserved by the States to the assent of the legislative power of the Union.

Thus it is seen not only that the States have this power to lay tonnage duties, subject to the consent of Congress, but that the power was retained for harbor improvements, dec. The necessities alleged in the case of the Chesapeake, and the retention of this important power by the States with a view to them, shows how applicable and how adequate it is to the necessities similar in character of the States on the lakes. And let it be observed it was so retained, without any claim being then made that ing influence? we may be asked. We answer the same object; for it was only the day after

States to three!

Now, so far from the Intelligencer being right States, as humble sub-contractors, the factsthat this power has been retained expressly by them, and historically, for that purpose, and ative of all the States to this State action, is the only part or lot it has in the matter; that no cotemporaneous assertion, but in reality a cotemporaneous denial, of power in and to Congress over the same matter is provedthese facts demonstrate that the improvement of rivers and harbors is, by the Constitution, designed to be left as a subject for State control, and as entirely beyond the province of federal jurisdiction.

CHURCH ORGANS-GOVERNMENT OR-

A MONSTER ORGAN.-A gentleman, writing from Hull, England, under date of November 7, to a gentleman in this city, gives the follow ing description of an organ about to be built in London for the new Crystal Palace at Syd-

"I have just seen the scheme of the monster organ to be built for the Crystal Palace at Sydenham. Its contemplated erection has not, as yet, been made public, so that you will doubtless, be apprised of its dimensions before any one in America at least. It will be a prodigious instrument, at least three times as large as any ever constructed. It is to occupy a position at the east end of the transept. will contain, in all, one hundred and thirtynine stops, and ten thousand one hundred and

The Great Organ 1,682 1,624 The Choir Organ 20 The Swell Organ 22 The Solo Organ The Pedal Organ 30

It will be one hundred and twenty feet high fifty feet deep, with a breadth of eet, and will have four rows of keys. The cost of this mammoth instrument is be £25,000, or \$125,000! The bellows will be

worked by steam.

Mr. Hill, of London, has the contract for its construction, and three years are allowed him for its completion. The largest pipe will be sixty-four feet long, which is double the length of any now in use. It will be built in stories, like a house, with staircases, &c. The sides of

The history of music has many attractions for those who love that gentle art. Between it and poetry there exists a very tender alliance. To write the songs of a nation, it has been said, is tantamount to governing that nation. The reason of this power is not so much in the poetry as the music to which it is set. All nations, however rude, all tribes, however savage, have their national music. The degraded tribes of the interior of Africa have their solemn, and not unmelodious chants. The Indians have their war songs. The ancient Britains have left us specimens of their skill in music The ancient Isralites had their war songs and their sacred songs, set to music. We have every style of music, from the plaintive wail of the benighted African, up to the good honest old English ballad, and from that up to the most difficult, involved, and incomprehensible Italian productions.

But it was not our design to speak of vocal arly to instrumental music. Musical instruvented.

Monarchs in almost every age have had, as well their musicians, as their poets-their pet fools and their mistresses. The poets, however, of royalty, called laureates, held sinecures. A string of adulatory verses once a year, or made, constituted their labors.. But we are rather wandering from our object. It was with the organ that we designed to deal.

Of the organ there are several varieties The first is the noted hand organ. These instruments are commonly found in the hands of wandering Italians, or itinerant French, who for a copper a tune, grind music to amuse children, and to entice decorated monkeys to play at their ludicrous pranks and gambols.

The second variety is the church organ, wherein the psalms of David and the hymns in the prayer book are performed-these performances being a very delightful part of the worship of religious congregations.

The third and last variety, and the one with which we mean at present to deal, is of modern origin, and goes by the name of the GOVERN-MENT ORGAN. This peculiar instrument Washington Union—the freesoil press—the is used, like the church organ, for purposes of worship-not, however, the worship of our maker, but the worship of mammon. Strictly

speaking, its music cannot be called sacred. The French or Italian organ-grinder is content, as we have said, with a copper a tune. Not so with a government organ-grinder. His pay must be both high and certain. The poet laureate is required, as we have said, to write but one string of adulatory, namby pamby verses a year-but the government organ-grinder, less lucky than he, is required to make perennial, perpetual music. For him there is no rest. By day and by night his services are demanded. He mingles his laudatory performances with the matin songs of the lark, and with the ugly hoot of the dismal night owl. His copious effusions of praise must flow out in season and out of season. Right or wrong, it is his duty to praise the government—magnify all its acts,

and worship all connected with it. Happily for him the monotony of laudation is often relieved by the necessity of abuse and animadversion-not of the government, however, but of the people and the presses of the country, who are bold and honest enough to condemn what they reckon wrong. It is hard to say which task is most congenial to its taste. Both it discharges faithfully. He who can praise-can also condemn-on the principle we presume, that a good lover can be a very bitter hater.

One of the annoyances to which this fund tionary is subjected is the liability of his instrument to get out of tune. It sometimes gives out one note when it ought to sound another It requires great skill to guard against such

Scattered throughout the country are numberless smaller organs, whose business it is, with religious exactitude, to catch up the tunes by that of Congress. Its consent is requisite to Dr. Franklin and Mr. Madison had presented of the big organ, and play them for the astonish during the present year, the whole am

the laying of a duty on tonnage, though not a proposal for vesting grand powers for imment of the natives; but these little grinders provements in the federal government, which being raw and unskilful, it oftentimes happens had been defeated by the decisive vote of eight that they make a great and grievous discord, shocking to the persons worshipped, and most provoking to the big and leading organist. If in its conclusions, that the power belongs to we may be allowed to characterize the governthe federal government, to be let out to the ment organ by a musical appellation, we would designate it as a base instrument.

It affords us much pleasure to be able to say, on the best authority, that, at the present time, that the consent of Congress, as the represent there is no such thing in use as a government

THE BALTIMORE PLATFORM.

We had hoped that it would not be necessar to say any thing more than we have already said in regard to the proper construction of the Baltimore platform. But we find, however unpleasant it may be, that it is our duty to do so. It is one thing to construct, it is another thing to pull down. It requires genius to buildbut brute force may pull down-the edifice. The Baltimore platform was the work of the wisest and the most patriotic men of the nation. The object of those men, who had just nominated their candidate for the presidency, was to elect him. They did not wish, however, to elect him by a trick, by bare chicanery, by open or concealed fraud. They desired to elect him by honest means, by an open and manly avowal of honest principles.

In regard to the general and proper principles of democracy there was perfect unanimity. But in regard to the different ingredients and features of the compromise, we confess, as we have all along said, there had originally been some difference of opinion. There had been, anterior to the time of holding that convention, a difference of opinion, among some members, in regard to the admission of California into the Union. There had been a difference of opinion in regard to the Texas boundary question; but there had never been any difference of opinion in regard to the constitutionality and propriety of the fugitive-slave law. The two first questions were past matters-they were executed-they were finally and irretrievably settled. For good or for evil, they were ended and fixed. The third question was, in one respect, different. In the technical language of the law, it was executory. True, it was passed by Congress; but a sucthe case to be of glass, and the 64 feet pipe to ceeding Congress, in the opinion of some, might claim what we would always protest against, (because of the compromises of the constitution) the power to reconsider it-to alter it-to abolish it. But the Baltimore platform set the seal of its reprobation upon such a reconsideration—alteration or abolition. The Baltimore platform, and those who made it, fixed the fugitive-slave law as a finality. The other two questions had been fixed as finalities before, by act of Congress. The Baltimore platform, as the chairman announced, was "unanimously passed."

There were none in that convention who acknowledged themselves abolitionists; there were none in that convention who acknowledged themselves freesoilers. They all went there as democrats—as national democrats. Whether they were originally in favor of the admission of California, or of the Texas boundary, was not the question, for some of the soundest democrats of the country opposed those two measures: but it was material to music. Our purpose was to refer more particu- know, whether they were originally and at present in favor of the fugitive-slave law and ments are various. They extend from the the efficient execution of it. That was another simple pipes of the rustic shepherd, up to the question. That, unlike the other two, being the main question. Being executory, so far as popular power and numerical force, (though not the Constitution,) was concerned, the question was narrowed down to that subject-the fugitive slave law. Being, in the opinion of some, liable to change in the manner indicated, it is fair to suppose that the feelings, sympathies, whenever an addition to the royal family was and prepossessions of the convention in regard to it would be shown. They passed it unanimously. They thus proved that they did not then, and never did desire it to be changed or abolished. That was the only feature in the compromise that there was any necessity for passing upon. The vote was unanimous. It was conclusive—it was final.

Then let those rip up and reopen the compromise who will. Let those rip up and reopen the Baltimore platform who will. For our part, we stand to it and we stand by it. It is a finality; all professing to be democrats must act in accordance with it, or falsify the pledges they have made. We can well understand the insidious assault made upon it. We can well understand and appreciate the effort now made to destroy it. It must be pulled down, or the Secretary of the Treasury, the soft party and all their aiders, abettors and sympathisers must stand before the country convicted of insincerity-of hypocrisy. Let them pull it down if they can. Let them dishonor its noble and patriotic builders-for our part, we will have nothing to do with such a movement. The time will come when these things will be repented of in sackcloth and ashes. The hour may not be at hand-the time may not be now-but it will be soon.

A Prosperous Fire Department. The r sult in the change of the fire department, from volunteer to pay, as demonstrated in six months

Peace and good order in our streets. Silence and quiet at our engine houses.

Harmony among the entire membership. Ar new department has gratined the public, and re-spect to the intelligent and able efforts of the chief engineer, Miles Greenwood, and his recommenengineer, Miles Greenwood, and his recommendations is due by the citizens and the city council. Mr. Greenwood suggests, first, as a measure of economy and public necessity, the building of four new steam-engines much lighter than the one now in use; second, i wise provision for the daring and exposed firemen, the creation of a fund for those that may be disabled while in the service of the department; hird, as a means of efficiency, the erection of a tower some forty feet high, on the top of the Michanic's Institute, in which an alarm bell shall be placed, and a watch stationed day and night; furth, to secure the city from the erection of inperfect and dangerous walls; that an ordinance be passed constituting the chief engineer and assistants, a board for erection of buildings within the city limits, deferring the buildings within the city limits, deferring the public safety requires, and to see that all ord nances, respecting the same, be put in force. [Cincinnati Atlas.

Naval Matter.—A meeting was held on t 23d instant, at the town hall of Portsmouth, take steps for obaining an increase of wages he navy yard.

In Chicago 25,163 cattle have been packed

No part of our laws implies a more become ing consciousness of the fallibility of human judgment, than the cautious and deliberate procedure required in ascertaining mental dis ease, and surrendering a supposed lunatic to the custody of his kindred. A remarkable instance of this kind fell under my own observation. I was on my way to visit an uncle resident on the coast of Cornwall, and believed myself very near my journey's end, when the stage-coach driver admitted a stranger to fill a seat which had been vacated. The other three passengers were busily engaged in a discussion on lawful and unlawful duels, and referring occasionally to a pamphlet printed in 1632, on occasion of the battle awarded in the preceding year in the court of chivalry, on an appeal of treason by Lord Rea against Mr. Ramsey. Then followed an attempt to trace the writ of appeal and wager of battle from the practice of Turkey, and its prevalence in England till the third year of Henry VII. But our new companion, whose dress was very little superior to a disbanded seaman, suddenly joined the con-

"Gentlemen," he began, in a stern voice. "modern philosophers never read, therefore they are always making discoveries. Did Blackstone see any barbarity in this mode of satisfying justice, or did the archbishop of Toledo dislain to witness such a combat in the most re

ligious court of Europe?"
This remarkable combination of authoritie made one of the party smile, though his pro-fessional petulance was stirred by the implied comparison between our English oracle and an old Spanish bigot. To waive any further dis putes on the wisdom or antiquity of trial by single combat, he began to describe the dresses worn on such occasions in our third Henry's

"Sir," interposed our legislator in a blue jacket, "the pike, dagger, long sword, and short sword, which you speak of, were appointed only for Rea and Ramsay. In Henry's time, such combatants fought with weapons of small length, with heads, hands, and feet bare; or with ebon staves or batons, having hard sand bags fast ened at the ends. And each might have a cornered shield without any iron, and a frock of red cloth reaching to the elbow and knee.
But the appellant's head was ever covered, and
the defendant's rayed or shaven thus."

As he spoke, the describer suddenly raised

ais hat, and discovered a head of most extraor dinary character. It reminded us of those fine busts found among the ruins caused by a vol-cano, scorched and bruised, but not deprived of their noble symmetry and expression. skin was darkened as if burning lava had passed over it, except on the upper part of his head. which appeared to have been lately shaven, and was now bordered by a fringe of the same crisp black hair which formed the thick curl of his eye-brows, and met near his chin. Blackstone and Beccaria were wholly forgotten while we looked on this formidable countenance, and observed that its possessor had also a strong staff, not unlike the baton of the champions he had been describing. Not another word was hazarded; and, when the mail-coach stopped, I mount ed the horse provided for me with great readiness, to escape from the sight of our unknown companion. I shall be pardoned, I believe, if I confess that, during my ride through the solitary lane which led to my uncle's old manorhouse, I cast several suspicious glances at the shadows which a few shaggy elms threw over my path. The first kind salutations of a hospitable relative were hardly finished, when his porter came to announce a stranger, who desired instant admission on the most urgent business. It was late, the manor-house lonely, and situated near a coast noted for desperate pirates and contraband adventurers. But my good old uncle, who held that office the like of which," as has been merrily said, is known to no other land," was too proud of is authority, and too conscious that he held it with pure hands, to entertain any fears. Yet he allowed me to accompany him to what he called his justice-room, where, with much surprise, and some apprehension, I saw the dark man. He looked at me first as if recognising my features, and endeavering to examine their import; then addressing my uncle with more courtesy than his rude apparel promised, quested a private audience. A glance of inteligence which we had time to exchange, induced my old kinsman to support me, when I professed myself his indispensable clerk. After mysteriously closing the door, and advancing o near as to make me regret that my travel ing pistols were out of my reach, he announced. n a low and singularly solemn tone, that he came to lay a capital charge against two seamen of his Majesty's ship, the

"Of felony or murder?" said my uncle, and prepared pen and paper to fulfil my assumed office of his clerk. "Of completing one, and conspiring to com mit the other," replied the informer in the same low tone, with a mixed expression of fear

and horror in his countenance. The justice required him to relate particulars, and they seemed distinctly told. He stated that the boatswain, and another

person belonging to an English ship of war, had conveyed him in their boat, after dining with their captain and his officers, to an ob scure cove on the coast, near Naples, where he nad been imprisoned several days, and at last released—or, to speak more properly, aban-doned—without money, and almost without clothes, on a desolate spot, from whence he was conveyed, in a delirious fever, by his valet.

This last particular deserved inquiry. How did his valet discover his master's and what induced him to visit a part of the Neapolitan coast so desolate and undistinguished search of him Our informer answered, that the man him-

self might be questioned on that subject.

To my remark that only the fact of robbery could be substantiated, as murder did not appear to have been designed, he replied: "Both were committed, but not within the

etter of our laws.

Being urged to explain this ambiguous senence, he remained several minutes in a silence which implied such deep and melancholy recolection, that neither our curiosity nor our suspicions emboldened us to interrupt it. onest uncle spoke first.

"Child," he said, laying his hand on the young man's shoulder, with a kindness which almost always created the confidence it expressed, "there is something in this business nore than you have communicated, or less than you imagine. If these men proposed an outrage against your life, why did they leave the work unfinished; and if they never atempted it, why is the murderous design im-

puted to them? Still he made no reply, and my uncle in-quired the extent of the robbery he had

"Only a few pieces of gold," he answered, and my valet tells me they were restored. We looked at each other with sufficient agreement in our thoughts that the charge was wholly due to a disordered imagination; and, hoping to detect its incoherence still more broadly, we required him to repeat it, while I made minutes. But he made no variation in names or dates; his descriptions of the secret cove, of the boatswain's figure and his companion's dress, were singularly precise and forcible. My uncle called for supper, and seat-ing him by his fireside, with the frank kindness of an old English squire, endeavored to fix his attention on other subjects. We talked of political occurrences, of the general state of Italy, and the victory then recent at Maida. A slight shivering of his lips and eyelids indicated that this last subject touched some tender nerve, and he saddenly asked me if I had seen Calabria.

"My nephew is an idle Templar," said the justice, answering for me, "and has more am-bition to be lined with good capon than at a cannon's month !

some unintended reference in this allusion to Shakspeare, and he replied, with a fierce ges-

Gentlemen, I understand the purpose of all this. You persuade yourselves that an outrage which did not end in the actual loss my life and property, is not worth a public and difficult investigation; you wish to sooth me into forgetfulness and forgiveness, and I thank you for the attempt. You know not what a blessing it would be to forget, and I have sought for it in many ways, but these men haunt me still, and I must accuse them. Remember, gentlemen, I did not say how much of my life and property they spared, nor how

We could make no answer to a speech which with all its obscure incoherence, was solemn. Almost convinced that his visitor was insane, my uncle soothed him with an assurance tha ne would expedite the progress of justice, and had began to offer him a chamber under his oof till morning, when another stranger, with hree attendants, claimed admission. were brought into the room where we still sa with the accuser, who started from his place at their entrance, and held up the formidable baton I have mentioned once before. Sir Frederick Cornwall, as I choose to call our new visitor presented himself with very engaging polite-ness, and entreated pardon for his relative's intrusion. I accompanied him into another apartment, and heard his expressions of regret at the national insanity which seemed to have aken entire hold of his nephew's mind.

To my question whether Colonel C. had ever been in Naples, he replied that he had only returned from thence a few days.
"But," he added, "his valet assures me no

part of this strange romance, which he persists in repeating, ever had existence, if we except the delirious fever he himself confesses." A request that the unhappy young man this speech, which did not appear to me quite

satisfactory. He perceived it, and produced several letters dated from Naples, and distinctly giving the Neapolitan physician's opinion of his distemper. One, written by the captain of the vessel in which Colonel C. had sailed home, letailed many touching instances of incurabl lejection, and hinted at an attempted suicide. This letter enclosed another from the unfortu aste young officer himself, relating the transaction in the Bay of Naples, exactly as he had lescribed it to us, but with many expressions of the keenest and most desperate resentment. Though these expressions were mingled with others which seemed to imply grateful confi-dence in his uncle's affection, I thought myself at liberty to doubt it, and ventured to inquire why the valet had not accompanied his unfor unate master to England. Sir Frederick showed me an Italian letter, containing so natural and so clear a statement of the man's reasons for remaining in his native country, that no objection could be made. But my good good ancle, who well deserved the name of Justice, positively detained the colonel as his guest till the strictest inquiries had been pursued. Nohing resulted that could throw doubt on Sir rederick, or justify us in withholding the colonel's person, which he surrendered himself, with an air of tranquility almost amounting to

I remember in my boyhood a certain piece of nathematical magic in an old encyclopedia, epresenting almost innumerable circles most ricately interwoven, but all combining in one. I have since found it a very accurate represen-tation of the manner in which the selfish plans of individuals are rendered parts of one wide and perfect system of equal justice. A few years passed after this incident, and all rememprance of it had begun to disappear, when my professional duties brought me on the wester circuit, to a town where I received an anonymous letter, enclosing a large bank-note to re-tain me as counsel in the cause of a very young French boy charged with private robber note I deposited in my uncle's hands, to remain untouched, as a clue to future discovery; but the account circulated in the town concerning this young offender was sufficient to interest He was accused of stealing the purse and occupied a small mansion not far from the castle appropriated to French prisoners of war. Louis, as this boy called himself, had been found bruised and senseless under the mansion wall, from which he appeared to have fallen in an attempt to escape from the garden, where the owner had seen him lurking, probably after robbing the lunatic, who resided there, of the money found upon him. Amongst this money was a gold seal and diamond ring, both bearing the initials of Colonel Cornwall, and recognised by many persons as his property, though his reputed insanity rendered his evidence inadmissible. I questioned the boy with all the se verity and adroitness in my power, but could extort no confession from him regarding his business at that mansion, or the means by which the money fell into his hands. He did not deny that he had seen Colonel Cornwall; he admitted the seal and ring might have been once his property, but could give no account of the gold.

My earnest application procured a magis trate's order for my admission into Colonel C.'s presence alone. The keeper warned me of his oncealed fierceness and malignity, and left us together with evident reluctance. He knew me instantly, and burst into tears. I love human nature, and honor it too much to dwell on the frightful picture he gave me of his sufferings. The clearness, the moderation, and the method of his detail, convinced me they were undeserved; and my representations gained such attention from a discerning magis trate, supported by the votes of three physi cians, that he obtained admission into court as a capable witness. His narrative was simple and convincing. Louis, he said, had conveye three letters to him from an unknown person offering him money and jewels to bribe the keeper employed by his interesting relative. This mysterious friend also promised to produce such evidence as would effectually silence those who impeached his intellects. But he solemnly protested that he could not conjecture from whence these offers came, nor by what means Louis had obtained the seal and ring, which he did not remember ever to have seen before. I confess my surprise at this assertion, but it was useful to the prisoner. As the charge of felony was completely falsified, the court did of felony was completely faisined, the court did not deem it a duty to inquire further; the young Frenchman was released; and, after a tedious struggle with the forms of another court, our more unfortunate friend, Cornwall, was freed from his uncle's custody. I accompanied him to a retired villa in my own good uncle's neighborhood, which he chose for the wildness of its scenery and the pastoral simplicity of its in-habitants. We arrived at the pleasantest hour h belongs only of that sweet spring season which to England; and I congratulated him, as thought, most opportunely on his restoration to the rights and comforts of an Englishman. "It is your work," he replied, with a melancholy smile, "and I will not be so ungrateful as to tell you it is useless.'

"I would rather be told that it is imperfect provided you will teach me how to amend it. But I do not perceive anything wanting to your tranquility, unless you wish to know more of Louis or his employer; and it is impossible to deny, Cornwall, that your unwillingness to purinquiry in that quarter calls some suspisue cion upon yourself."

He made no answer to this speech, except

one of those fixed and haggard looks which accompanied his former state of dejection, till thed my question in direct terms: "On your honor, as a gentleman, and under the sacred secrecy which I owe you as a coun-

sellor, tell me if you know more of Louis?"
"My dear friend," he answered, "and those words imply everything most sacred between man and man; I do know Louis, and therefore

Our guest's imagination probably caught I disclaim all knowledge of the seal and ring the gold would have burned both my heart and my brain if I had accepted it, but I could not confess the truth. Complete your task by staying with me till the day of my death, and confess the truth. you will learn all."

"You have deceived me, then, in the affair of Naples too, perhaps?"
"On the faith of a dying man, you have heard

the truth, and nothing but the truth, on that subject. I told you, when we first met, that I nad enemies who had taken away my honor, and now they have reached my life This terrible hint confirmed suspicions in my nind that had been indistinctly forming since the first period of our acquaintance. wall's uncle had children who might be largely benefitted by his death; the suspected valet was probably their agent, and the strange outrage committed at Naples might have been a stratagem to disorder his imagination, or an attempt to remove him, baffled by some secret means. Mine was not the only judgment plassed against Sir Frederick Cornwall, and

the emaciated state of his nephew, everywhere ascribed to the cruelties inflicted on him, caused such general indignation and abhor-rence, that the darkest suspicions were willingy received. Letters were privately sent to powerful persons in Naples, urging them to trace the Italian valet; and while we awaited he result, my uncle and myself neglected no means to allure the melancholy man from his solitude. He was our guest for whole days and and weeks, and his house, on these occasions, was left to the care of three trusty servants, who had known and loved him from his youth They were alarmed one evening, in their master's absence, by the stopping of a hired post-chase at their gates, from whence, without ceremony or inquiry, a veiled woman came into the hall, and seated herself. The servants ooked at each other in stupid confusion, for

hey all recognized their master's divorced wife. "Be under no embarrassment," said she with a coolness which completed their astonish ment; "Colonel Cornwall is absent, and I neither desire nor expect to see him. Bring me ink and paper, and carry the letter I shall write.

They all obeyed, without understanding her authority, and the whole household gathered round, each indulging his curiosity, by holding some article of the writing apparatus. With her veil still over her face and an unmoved ttitude, she wrote and sealed her billet, which the steward, a man of great fidelity and shrewd ness, brought instantly to me. His account of this singular visit, gave me great hopes of some decisive crisis; and, not without many anxious expectations, I gave the paper into her husband's hands. He read it twice, his countenance changed extremely, but merely writing two lines with his pencil on the back of his vife's note, he desired me to deliver it myself. On such a mission there could be no hesitation. I found her still sitting in the hall, with her veil drawn over her, and the servants stationed in a cluster at some distance to watch her motions. She read her husband's answer, and, after a short pause, rose and threw back he

"I have recollected myself, sir," shé said advancing towards me; "these people all know me, and I have no right to screen myself from their contempt: it is part of the punish-ment I come to meet, and this veil is an indulgence I do not deserve. Colonel Cornwall commands me to quit his house, but something s due to justice and public opinion. His un le accuses him of inventing the conspiracy at Naples—you suspect his uncle of abetting it for his own purposes. I was the only witness of that transaction, and will give my evidence when and where you please; but I adjure all these persons to attest that their master has spoken the truth, and that his uncle is innocent.'

I was confounded by this public declaration on a subject so unfit for the ears of vulgar and prejudiced hearers. I begged a private aulience, and endeavored to persuade her that her late husband's health was in no state to ear agitating appeals and discoveries; but she persisted in offering a termination of all secrets as the readiest and most certain medicine for his melancholy. She urged me to conduct her into his presence, or to be the medium of her tive, and she put a large drawing into my hand. "I took an oath," said she, half smiling, never to name the principal actor in this af-

The servants of Colonel Cornwall's establishent received my orders to observe her narowly till my return, and I set out, charged with a heavy and difficult task, to see him again. His first words were to prohibit the in-trusion of the woman once called his wife. Then eyeing me steadfastly, he added:

"She has told you all, I see; but the disclosure might have been spared till after my de-cease. You have heard that villians who peronated English seamen betrayed me into the hands of Neapolitan traitors. I, who had volunteered my services on an important undertaking, and was entrusted with secret documents-I, while the army was sailing to its destination, was imprisoned in the den of that alse woman's paramour, and then released alive with the mockery of mercy. "But, perhaps, even that small mercy was

shown at her intercession.' "Yes," he rejoined, with a smile full of bitterness, "and she probably believed I would owe my liberty a second time to her interference, and thank her for it. Tell her I do give her thanks, not for my life, but for making me seem a madman rather than a coward or a raitor, and for hastening my death now by her

"Look at this picture, however, and if it re sembles the person whose agents imprisoned you, tell me by wh.t name he is now called." He looked at it an instant, and thrusting it into the fire, replied, "An emperor's brother-in-law-the king of

These were his last articulate words. Except a look of sorrow, and a long pressure of my hand when I asked forgiveness for his wife, he gave no sign of recollection before he died that night. The unhappy woman fell into the extremest agonies of despair, and resigned herself to the most desolate solitude. Yet the energy of her conduct in her last confession. her courageous efforts to release her husband from the tortures of a mad-house in the garb of a French boy, and her deep repentance of the frailty which led her step by step into the society of military renegades, proved a mind worthy of a better fate. I did not discover till long after, that during three years she had submitted to perform the meanest duties of a house where her husband sufered confinement as a lunatic, hoping to find some means of expressing her remeate, or of alleviating his misery, but she found neither; and when her detection and dismission by the eper suggested the romantic expedient of s attire, his inflexible pride refused all aid from a hand that had disgraced him. He died he victim of feelings too finely wrought; and if the misery of an unfaithful wife needs agravation, she feels the utmost in remembering that her guilt caused the overthrow of a noble mind, and the untimely death of its possessor.

Last Saturday a widow named Mary Simons residing in Chicago, was committed to jail, charged with the murder of her daughter, an interesting child of twelve years, who was found dead in her house on Saturday morning. It appeared in evi-dence before the coroner's jury, that she was a woman addicted to intemperance, and cruel to her children. On Friday night she was drunk, and beat her daughter brutally, and then, to stop her cries, thrust her head into a tub of water, holding her in that situation until she was nearly suffocated. A post morten examination showed clotted blood about the lungs and heart, while the child's body bore the traces of the inhuman blows of the drunken fiend, her mother, who is a stout, large woman, and, up to the time of her commitment, manifested no remorse or contrition for the revolting deed she had committed.